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Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 PA-02 ISO-00 SSM-05
PCH-02 SAA-01 SES-02 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 /096 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND:RGH
APPROVED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND
PA/PRS - MR. CARTER
- MR. FLATEN
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
EA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN
NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER
NEA/IAI - MR. KORN
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM
----------090609 232321Z /12
O 232008Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA

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AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
SECDEF WASHDC 0000
JCS WASHDC 0000
CIA WASHDC 0000
USICA WASHDC
NSC WASHDC 0000
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS POUCH

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD, TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 23

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 23, 1978. SPOKESMAN TODAY WAS MR. THOMAS RESTON.

Q. ANYTHING NEW ON THE SITUATION IN LEBANON?

A. I HAVE NOTHING NEW ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN
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LEBANON. I HAVE NOTHING NEW ON THE SITUATION IN BEIRUT.

I AM PREPARED TO ADDRESS SOME COMMENTS BY BRIAN URQUHART MADE WITH REGARD TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF LEBANESE FORCES IN SOUTH LEBANON.

I HAVE NO PARTICULAR DIRECT COMMENT TO MAKE. THE UN IS THE PLACE TO ASK ABOUT MR. URQUHART'S REMARKS.

FOR OUR PART, WE BELIEVE THAT THE DEPLOYMENT OF LEBANESE ARMY FORCES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON WOULD BE A USEFUL STEP IN RESTORING THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT IN THAT REGION. RESTORATION OF THIS AUTHORITY, THAT IS THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY, REMAINS OUR GOAL. WE ARE

CONTINUING OUR DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION.

Q. THERE IS A REPORT OUT OF ISRAEL THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL ARE HAVING URGENT CONTACTS IN THIS CONNECTION. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT?

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A. NOT ANYTHING SPECIFIC, BUT OBVIOUSLY WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH ALL OF THE PARTIES BOTH INSIDE LEBANON AND THOSE PARTIES OUTSIDE LEBANON WHICH EXERCISE INFLUENCE OVER THE PARTIES INSIDE LEBANON. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO URGE MAXIMUM RESTRAINT ON ALL PARTIES.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON SOME OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S STATEMENTS THE OTHER DAY REGARDING WHAT HE PLANS TO SEEK AT CAMP DAVID?

A. NO.

Q. DID YOU FIND HIM HELPFUL OR UNHELPFUL?

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A. I DID NOT FIND HIM HELPFUL OR UNHELPFUL; I HAVE NO COMMENT.

Q. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, HAVE YOU ANY IDEA OF WHEN ADVANCE PARTIES FROM EGYPT AND ISRAEL WILL BE COMING TO WASHINGTON TO SET UP THE CAMP DAVID MEETING OR TO DISCUSS THE CAMP DAVID MEETING?

A. I CAN'T OFFER YOU A TIME-FRAME ON THAT. I SUGGEST YOU ASK THE WHITE HOUSE. OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN WORKING SUBSTANTIVELY ON WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT CAMP DAVID, AND ALSO LOGISTICALLY ON HOW IT WILL BE DONE. HOWEVER, I HAVE NO ARRANGEMENTS TO OFFER YOU TODAY, AND I DON'T KNOW WHEN ADVANCE PARTIES MAY BE COMING.

Q. HOW ABOUT WHEN THE AMERICAN AMBASSADORS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES WILL BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THEIR PLANS.

Q. THERE IS A REPORT THAT EILTS IS COMING BACK NEXT WEEK.

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO OFFER ON THEIR PLANS. CHRISTOPHER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED ALGIERS.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: STATE
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780831/aaaaazzs.tel
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Litigation History:
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Retention: 0
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1644347
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 23
TAGS: SOPN, US, XF
To: AMMAN BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cab7305d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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